

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW POCKETMOUSE FROM SOUTHERN
CALIFORNIA.

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The form of *Perognathus fallax* inhabiting the eastern or desert slopes of the mountains of Riverside and San Diego counties, California, and thence southward along the eastern slope of the Coast Range into Lower California, is almost as pallid as the pocketmouse of the Colorado Desert which Mr. Osgood named *Perognathus penicillatus angustirostris*. The name *fallax*, in a subspecific sense is here restricted to the animal of the coastal region, although the type and series of topotypes, from Reche Canyon, three miles southeast of Colton, San Bernardino County, California, are almost exactly intermediate between it and the desert race. The darkest individuals examined are from Rose Canyon and San Pasqual Valley, on the western border of San Diego County.

Perognathus fallax pallidus subsp. nov.

PALLID POCKETMOUSE.

Type.—No. 61,007, United States National Museum. Skin and skull of adult female, from Mountain Spring, half-way up the east slope of the Coast Range Mountains, on the Mexican Boundary Line, in San Diego County, California. Collected May 16, 1894, by Edgar A. Mearns. Original No. 3520.

Subspecific characters.—Size and cranial characters exactly like those of *Perognathus fallax fallax*. Pelage light gray (No. 9 of Ridgway's color manual) at base instead of dark gray (No. 6, Ridgway), and the general effect pale broccoli-brown instead of bistre above, where it is much more lightly mixed with black than in *fallax*; tail-stripe drab instead of hair-brown; lateral line and subterminal zone of hairs of upperparts pale pinkish buff; feet and underparts creamy white; ears with a few white hairs anteriorly. Young, pale smoke-gray above.

Measurements.—Average of six adult females from the east slope and notch at summit of Coast Range Mountains, near the Mexican boundary (Mountain Spring to Jacumba): length, 195 mm. (188-206); caudal vertebrae, 107 (98-112); hind foot, 24.2 (23.7-25); ear from crown, 6.9 (6.5-7).

Distribution.—Specimens have been examined from San Jacinto Lake, Riverside County, California; San Felipe Canyon, Mountain Spring, wagon-pass at summit of Coast Range, and Jacumba Hot Springs, in San Diego County, California and Lower California.

Acknowledgments.—I am indebted to the authorities of the United States National Museum and the Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture for the use of the required materials, and to Mr. Wilfred H. Osgood for assistance in studying the group.